Breaking news: Local journalism returns to Marblehead

By Linda Matchan
JOURNAL STAFF

BOSTON – Should you happen to find yourself in the Fenway neighborhood this fall – perhaps watching the Red Sox get trounced once more – you might spot something surprising on Van Ness Street: An illuminated red heart sculpture fashioned from chicken wire, on a concrete base inscribed with images of antisemitism.

Among these images are a prisoner’s number – A-7713, the number tattooed on the arm of Holocaust survivor and writer Elie Wiesel in Auschwitz, and a yellow star, evoking the Star of David that Jews were mandated to wear by the Nazis. The concrete base, inscribed with the word “justice” in multiple languages, is a nod to a coffin or a sarcophagus. The intention is to put a spotlight on hate and antisemitism.

It’s not what you’d expect to find near the Target store and Wahlburgers, but a label next to the heart elaborates: The sculpture is part of a “Jewishly Inspired Public Art Movement” called “Be the Change” produced by the Jewish Arts Collaborative (JArts). Five more large art pieces are installed nearby. A tree made of steel, wire – and handcuffs – meant to highlight racial bias in the criminal justice system. A gigantic wooden human rib cage sheltering a small garden, addressing the need to live in balance with the earth. A sculpture resembling a traditional wigwam made of metal and glass, designed as a sanctuary, and information source for those experiencing domestic violence. A geodesic dome encasing a soothing garden.

There are six sculptures in all, each of them an example of art as activism, or “artivism,” and they’re installed in the vicinity of Van Ness, Kilmarnock and Boylston Streets. Scanning the QR codes on the sculptures, you learn the art is meant to help viewers connect to issues of injustice and empower them to become agents of change.

For decades, American Jews have associated tzedakah boxes with the iconic tin box. But the humble tzedakah box hits the streets.

The codes also link to resources related to the social justice issues showcased by the artists. Blending social justice activism with art is not a new idea. What’s unique about “Be the Change” is that it was inspired by the humble tzedakah box.

“It’s not what you’d expect to see right in the heart of Boston,” said Robinson, who has a finance background, strong ties to Israel. Robinson has dual citizenship, is a resident here. “Residents are entitled and have a responsibility to know how the town is run,” she said.

Robinson and Lederman both have a legal background and, with her colleagues, a commitment to deliver well-researched articles. Having lost local news coverage just as elections for state representatives and Essex County sheriff were heating up, the Beacon did extensive research to explore candidates’ records, covering accidents, fires, and human interest, the digital publication delves deep on issues like how to understand the school budget.

“I find the investigative piece to be extremely important,” said Lederman, a rising senior at Marblehead High School. Lederman is the paper’s technology and website wizard but he also writes articles and brings a youthful presence into the mix.

Schaeffner has a finance background, was a Marblehead School Committee member, and now operates her real estate business. She grew up in town, and raised her children here. “Residents are entitled and have a responsibility to know how the town is run,” she said.

Schaeffner and Lederman both have strong ties to Israel. Robinson has dual citizenship, as her mother is Israeli. “On my mother’s side, the experience of the Holocaust is imprinted on my psyche,” she said.

“Be the Change” installations, produced by the Jewish Arts Collaborative, are now on exhibit in Boston.

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Inclusive Jewish Sunday School in Newton shuttered after 76 years

By Ellen Braunstein
JOURNAL CORRESPONDENT

NEWTON – Unable to outlast the pandemic and struggling to keep up enrollment, the Sunday School for Jewish Studies closed this summer after 76 years of serving unaffiliated and interfaith families in the Greater Boston area.

A statement on the SSJS website thanked the Jewish community for support and pointed to the coronavirus pandemic as a “handship faced by many organizations.”

The statement continued: “We have worked passionately to avoid closing the school. This has been a difficult decision for us and we have explored a variety of options to keep SSJS open.”

Two of the school’s board members, Joshua Farber-Sault and Elana November, did not return phone calls requesting more explanation. The school’s recorded phone message states that it is no longer monitoring calls.

The Sunday School for Jewish Studies was started after World War II by two returning GIs who became Harvard University professors and wanted to have a Jewish education for their children without joining a synagogue, said David Gladstone, a past president of the school’s board. The school incorporated in the 1960s and became more progressive, attracting families who were unaffiliated, interfaith, multi-racial, and single gender, he said.

Over the years, more than 5,000 students passed through the school, including Gladstone’s wife, Joanne, who grew up in Newton.

The Sunday School moved several times over the decades, paying rent for one day a week, Gladstone said. Those locations included Pine Manor College, Regis College, Oak Hill Middle School, the University of Massachusetts Mount Ida campus, and, most recently, Gann Academy in Watertown.

Peak enrollment was 175 in the 1990s, Gladstone said. Students came from Brookline, Newton, Wellesley, Framingham, Natick, Chestnut Hill, Boston, Brighton, and Jamaica Plain, he added.

The school differed from synagogue-based Hebrew School programs. “It became the school of last resort for interfaith families who wanted a traditional type of Jewish education,” said Gladstone, who served on the board from 1992 to 2015. Two generations of his family attended the Sunday School. “Anyone was welcomed with open arms at the school.”

The closing of the K-7 school, which also offered High Holiday services, left some in the Jewish community saddened. Dori Stern served as education director for 15 years leading up to the pandemic. During those years, enrollment peaked at 156 children, she said.

“It’s such a sad thing,” said Stern, who heard from distressed parents over the summer. She also spoke to SSJS’s former director, Michelle Folickman, “when the decision was made at the end of the 2021-22 school year.”

Stern lamented the shutdown. “It was really a very special school where kids of interfaith families would get a really solid traditional education about our heritage.”

The school also offered bar and bat mitzvah training, its Torah would travel to any celebration venue, Gladstone said.

“I would put those kids up against any kid that comes out of a regular temple with regards to the knowledge of Torah,” he said.

Gladstone said he wished the board had reached out to seasoned supporters who helped run the school for a long time and navigate difficult situations, as well as those who were interfaith and would have liked community outreach from the board.

“A lot of Sunday schools were able to pivot out of COVID and be successful,” said Gladstone, who tried but couldn’t reach current board members. “I’m just confused about why and what happened.”

Alex Katz, an 18-year-old student at Clark University, is one of the many students who started in kindergarten at SSJS and came back several years later to graduate as a teacher’s aide. He saw the attendance decline and disinterest grow at the campus.

“I thought it was sad. I noticed a lot of people started to not come or care as much about the classes and activities,” she said.

“I’m done with school [at SSJS] so it was a natural ending for me, but I feel sad for the future of the kids there because I really wanted them to go through the experience I went through and they won’t really get to do that.”

Her grandmother, Barbara Folickman, said, “The first thing for us as a family is that the school very much cemented Alex’s Jewish identity. I thought the inclusiveness of all kinds of family constellations was wonderful.”

“It’s extremely unfortunate because I feel that the Sunday School filled an important community niche. A shame to have it close.”

The nondenominational school always held well-attended High Holiday services. Going forward, the Boston-area Jewish Education Program, another independent Sunday school, will hold them at Brandeis University, according to the Sunday School website. SSJS will donate resources “as a meaningful way to preserve our legacy and fulfill our mission.”

**Students prepared for Purim at the Sunday School for Jewish Studies.**

**Photo: Facebook**

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**Harold and Zelda Kaplan would like to introduce you to our niece Jessica Schaitkin Barlow and her husband Barret Barlow. Please read the ad and respond if at all possible. Thank You.**

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Phone: 321.438.1547
Email: BarretBarlow@gmail.com
CHELSEA – For the first time since 2019, the ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) and MS (multiple sclerosis) Walk for Living will be held in person on Sept. 18 in Chelsea.

A popular event on Boston’s North Shore, the 14th Annual ALS & MS Walk for Living is a testament to the remarkable residents at the Leonard Florence Center for Living, operated by Chelsea Jewish Lifecare. They show the world how they battle ALS and MS with courage, grace, spirit, and humor. Additionally, this year’s walk will honor another group of amazing individuals: the friends and neighbors who live on Admiral’s Hill.

“We are thrilled to dedicate this year’s Walk for Living to the exceptional people who reside on Admiral’s Hill,” said Barry Berman of Chelsea Jewish Lifecare. “The Admiral’s Hill community has opened their hearts to us, welcoming us warmly year after year. We are truly grateful for their friendship, support, and generosity.”

Mike Scott, a 64-year-old resident who moved into the Center in 2014, was officially recognized by such an extraordinary organization.

Kevin Kelliher, president of the Lundgren Management Group located on Admiral’s Hill, noted that the relationship between the community and the Leonard Florence Center flourished from the very beginning. “We are in awe of our ‘neighbors on the hill,’” stated Kelliher. “The residents inspire us, every single day, to live life to the fullest. It is an honor to be recognized by such an extraordinary organization.”

The 2-mile walk in the heart of scenic Admiral’s Hill enables residents to participate in wheelchair and ventilator as well as by foot. To register, go to the Walk for Living website, walkforliving.org, and click on register.

Following the walk, there will be a BBQ hosted by Chili’s, face painting, live dance performances, a petting zoo, popcorn, and cotton candy. The $20 donation fee includes a Walk for Living T-shirt, all food, and performances. The Walk for Living T-shirt, all food, and activities.

For more information or to make a much-appreciated donation, please visit https://walkforliving.org or contact Walk Director Maura Graham at mgraham@chelseajewish.org or 617-409-8973. All donations are tax deductible.

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The Miriam Fund in partnership with CJP, awards $400,000 in grants

BOSTON – The Miriam Fund and Combined Jewish Philanthropies celebrated Women’s Equality Day on Aug. 26 by announcing over $400,000 in grants to 19 organizations.

The Miriam Fund (TMF) is a unique collaborative venture with CJP that supports projects that expand opportunities for women and girls in Greater Boston and in Israel.

“The Miriam Fund partners with nonprofit organizations in Massachusetts and Israel that perform critical work to improve the lives of women and girls. Along with our dedicated members, the co-chairs of TMF – Cheryl Carner, Rachel Goldstein, and I – are thrilled to have the opportunity to highlight these extraordinary agencies and invest in their innovative programming,” said TMF co-co-chair Reva Fleishman.

In Greater Boston, grants to Jewish communal organizations included Gateways for “Our Daughters, Our Future: An Educational Series Exploring Girls’ Mental Health and Wellness.”

The Miriam Fund also awarded regular grants to Health Care without Walls to provide support for homeless elderly women. Said Betsy Eltonhead, chief operating officer of Health Care without Walls, “We are forever grateful to the Miriam Fund in their support of our medical and case management work with homeless and marginally housed elderly women in Boston.”

In Israel, Kaima Nahalal received funding for Kaima Earth Sisters, a project providing economic empowerment to women through farming,” said Merav Carmi, executive director of Kaima Nahalal.

“The women and girls we support found peace, safety, and a chance to start a new page. TMF’s support helped provide the stability needed to develop our core infrastructure and shift toward providing more comprehensive care. We hired a social worker and launched a residential program for young women ages 18-23.”

Since the Miriam Fund was founded in 2001, members have awarded more than $5 million in grants. TMF members contribute funds, solicit grant proposals, and award grants to local and international organizations, including two off-cycle grants to support efforts related to the continuing pandemic and an emergency grant to support efforts in Ukraine.

For more information, visit www.cjp.org/miriamfund

Giulia Fleishman named director of Spiritual Care at 2Life Communities

BRIGHTON – Rabbi Giulia Fleishman has been appointed inaugural director of spiritual care at 2Life Communities. Rabbi Fleishman, who recently completed her rabbinical studies at the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College in Newton, will serve as the lead provider of interfaith spiritual care for residents and staff across 2Life’s campuses.

It is the first role created specifically focused on spiritual life at the organization, and it supports all residents and staff – Jewish or otherwise – in their decision-making, spiritual direction, and education.

A Martha’s Vineyard native, Fleishman brings a unique expertise to the role, with an extensive background in spiritual care, healthcare and mental health services. Prior to rabbinical school, Fleishman earned a BFA from New York University and studied at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem. As a 2Life rabbinic intern, she pioneered a B’ni Mitzvah class of more than 20 seniors ages 70 to nearly 100, which culminated in a group ceremony with more than 600 in attendance. In 2021, she received the Linda Friedman Memorial Award, which honors a Hebrew College rabbinical student who makes an impact on social justice issues and positively transforms the participants’ spiritual lives and relationships to Judaism.

“I am particularly excited to translate the Jewish concept of ‘welcoming the stranger’ to my everyday work here,” she said. “It is the role is about meeting residents and staff where they are and supporting them however they need – regardless of their beliefs or background,” said Fleishman.

“Looking forward to helping residents and staff alike to feel supported, age in community, connect with others, and find meaning in their lives. So many of the things we refer to as Jewish values are shared across other traditions as well, from honoring parents and elders to making the world a better place,” she said.

Fleishman plans to use her 2Life rabbinical intern was supported by a grant from the Rita I. and Stanley H. Kaplan Family Foundation, which provides grants for Hebrew College rabbinical students to do pastoral work at 2Life.

Fleishman speaks Hebrew, Spanish and Italian and hopes to expand her spoken languages, particularly Russian and Mandarin, to better and more directly serve nonnative English-speaking residents.
WHAT IS YOUR JEWISH BACKGROUND?

I went to a Jewish preschool, Shirat Hayam, but after that I wasn't very much involved with the Jewish community. I'm Russian Jewish, but my parents' identity was closer to their Russian roots in terms of culture and food and stuff like that. Going into high school, I was introduced to an organization called BBYO (B'nai B'rith Youth Organization), and met a lot of Jewish friends. And from there, I kind of took the liberty of involving myself in the Jewish community, not necessarily pushed by my family, just because I wanted to. I became really involved in BBYO in terms of leadership, in terms of learning about my Jewish background, and that was all strengthened when I went on the Youth to Israel trip.

YOU SERVED AS REGIONAL PRESIDENT OF BBYO.

I was first our chapter's vice president of recruitment, then became regional president of recruitment, then was regional president during our COVID year, which was very difficult, because everything was online, and the whole purpose of the program is to have a lot of Jewish kids meet in-person. Our region still grew, and a lot of connections were made across the entirety of New England, so I was very thankful for that.

YOU ALSO HELPED FOUND A JEWISH STUDENT UNION AT MARBLEHEAD HIGH SCHOOL.

A friend and I actually started that after going on the YJL trip, because we realized how many people in our high school were Jewish but really didn't talk about it—we just saw them on the trip, but didn't realize they were Jewish before that. We wanted to bring the Jewish teens in Marblehead High School together earlier, throughout their whole time in high school. I feel like it creates a smaller community within a large high school. I'm glad because after we graduated, it still continued on, and that made me feel like it was definitely worth it.

WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO BE IN HIGH SCHOOL DURING THE PANDEMIC?

It was definitely really difficult for me. I was on the Holocaust Legacy Fellows, and that was canceled. Elections for BBYO went online, prom was canceled, and unfortunately one of my really close friends in BBYO passed away in a car accident at the peak of COVID. That was a very tragic time for me personally, emotionally. But I think it also made me realize who was there for me, who were my really close friends, and who I can trust for the rest of my life. So I think in a way that was pro, but it was definitely hard, and especially applying to colleges was just madness. All these rules were changing, so it was very stressful, but I think toward the end of senior year it worked out, because cases were minimized and we were able to have an in-person graduation.

HOW’S LIFE AT UCLA?

UCLA’s honestly been amazing. Not only from the programs and opportunities that I’ve experienced, but I’ve just met some of the best people that I’m going to know for the rest of my life. I’m pursuing a double minor in Spanish and entrepreneurship.

WHAT DO YOU THINK GEN Z LOOKS FOR IN ITS JEWISH EXPERIENCE?

I think that a lot of why people get really proud of their Jewish identity is they really look for that tight-knit community. You find out the other person is Jewish, and you're automatically friends, you automatically feel like you're connected. Especially in this day and age where everyone feels like they're “connected” through social media, I think this allows them to truly get away from that social media following aspect and really have a more personal connection, and I think that's really special, and that goes across all the communities I’ve experienced.

The interview was edited and condensed.

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Once lost, Revere’s last Torah finally makes its way to its new home in Kenya

By Cantor Jake Harris

Temple B’nai Israel in Revere was where I spent my first year as a cantorial soloist. Unfortunately, my first year was its last year. An aging membership and lack of volunteers took its toll, despite the spirit and energy of its last president, Debby Cherry. Debby became my mentor and friend—and I knew that her spirit would extend beyond the closing of Temple B’nai Israel this past year.

After the temple closed, I moved to Florida to accept a soloist position. Unfortunately, my timing was off, and participating in a choir concert was not an option for me at Shabbat services at B’nai Israel through substituting for Debby’s idea to extend the spirit of Temple B’nai Israel by bringing its last remaining Torah to an eager Jewish community in Kenya called Kehillat Israel.

Unfortunately, the airline she flew lost the Torah. Luckily, it was recovered, but only after Debby was back in the US. Both Debby and the Kenyans were devastated.

I shared the article with my partner, Cantor Rachel Slusky, who also had known to bring B’nai Israel through substituting for me at Shabbat services and participating in a choir concert honoring the legacy of the temple, held just before its closing. It was at that concert where we were introduced to Debby Cherry’s boyfriend, now fiancé, Simon Mwangi. When we met Simon he told us about his work as a safari guide in Kenya and encouraged us to make the journey someday.

After reading the article about Revere’s last Torah, lost on its journey to Kenya, Rachel had the idea for us to take Simon up on his offer, travel to Kenya for a safari, and deliver the Torah in person. We reached out to Debby and Simon and in no time our plans were set. In July, we made the trip from Miami to Nairobi, where we were picked up by Debby and Simon. We embraced each other with tears of joy, realizing that the last time we had all been together was at the closing of the temple back in 2019. We were now engaged in both a personal adventure and a spiritual mission.

We traveled from Nairobi to a series of magnificent camps and a safari park, which was more beautiful than the last, on our journey to the village of Nyahururu, where the Torah is located and where, coincidentally, Simon grew up. We were blessed to see majestic animals, dramatic landscapes, and welcoming people. Simon was knowledgeable about many aspects of nature as well as the socioeconomics of Kenya.

On Erev Shabbat, July 15, we finally reached our destination and had the pleasure of meeting Yehuda Kimani, the spiritual leader of Kehillat Israel—Kenya. We shared a Shabbat dinner with his family and planned the service for the next day. We were thrilled to learn that we shared many of the same melodies—the music bound us together as a community.

Upon our arrival at the temple, the next morning, we were greeted by many eager faces. With much excitement, Debby carried the Torah out of the truck and was quickly joined on either side by the loving congregants. As the Torah entered the temple, we all erupted in a rousing song, “Torah Tzivat Lanu Moshe.” Rachel and I were introduced to two young Kenyan cantors with whom we would lead the service. After a brief conversation, there was a pause, and we began.

Rachel and I felt like we were right in sync with the two other cantors as our commonly known melodies juxtaposed with new melodies we shared with one another. Debby gave a speech about the history of Temple B’nai Israel and Simon spoke about what the Torah’s journey had meant to him. Afterwards, we went to the home of Yehuda’s father and we all had Shabbat lunch together. As we sang songs and ate, thunder erupted and heavy rains began to fall. Since the season had been very dry up to that point, the rain and its intensity was an unexpected relief. Simon smiled and said, “It’s a sign!”

After the sad closing of Temple B’nai Israel and the dispersion of the people who loved it, the delivery of the last Torah meant their efforts to sustain and further the message of Judaism were not in vain. The wonderful people of Kehillat Israel—Kenya have a Sefer Torah for the first time. As we bade farewell to the incredible people of the congregation, Debby, Rachel, Simon, and I all felt a bittersweet joy. Our trip was ending, but the Torah and community would live on.

Revere’s last Torah had made it to its new home.

For more information, or to visit the congregation, contact debby.cherry316@gmail.com or simonsafari02@gmail.com.
The lessons of Butt Rock

By Steven A. Rosenberg

The path is magic and muddy and is a portal to fantasy and some truth.

I knew this dirt well, and the trees and stones that rise up like a protective berm over this corridor. It is a dream, it is part of another world, but when the mosquito taps at my ankle I awaken, at least for a second. This is again my backyard. I did not plan this return to Swampscool, more like stumbled until I found myself again on this trail. As a child, these woods were our escape. I’d step onto these paths — and connecting trails — and be transported to a central place. These woods were feet again onto the asphalt parking lot, which led back to my childhood home.

Fleeting curiosity then, and now as well. Somehow, the woods whisper approval when I enter. It still works, for as long I choose to glide along this yellow leaf road that stretches a couple of hundred yards. I do not hear children’s voices of past or present. Rather, I am invisible again, floating along in an inexplicable breath. But the trees suddenly are away from my presence, as are the birds and squirrels.

This is their home. I am their guest and know the rules. One may visit but not disturb.

This channel is not all that unusual. I have reached it before while writing or playing music. Because we are body and soul, thought hungers on forever. I can stay only so long, and the end always comes too soon. I step off the soil and onto the hardtop of a parking lot that sits between a fresh cut field and an old brick elementary school. I grow up across from the school with its field, swing sets, and magical woods that seemed to whisper to me every day.

It is a magical path. A ritual journey for my family to its rosy Colonial, which was just steps away from the school.

My parents weren’t suburban Jews — my dad was born in Lithuania and grew up on the streets of Chelsea; my mother was born in the Brickyard in Lynns. In the early 1960s, they found their own Shangri-La on Orchard Road. They spent four hours there picking the crooked leaves in his dell; my mom sold real estate (at a house in town was selling for more than $50,000, which was not exactly true. About a decade ago, a group of residents wanted to build a new school on the site but it was deemed too large a proposal and it was voted down. Then, last year, the town proposed build- ing an even bigger school there. It would be on the athletic field, and the current school would be torn down and replaced by a parking lot. Only a fraction of green space would remain on the rooftops.

I was most concerned about the woods and the path, and last summer, I thought I had little to worry about. Surely people would study the proposal and decide a better plan was needed. The path would be saved and I’d wake up on with my trance therapy, perhaps forever. But something happened in the last two years that I barely noticed, and the magical path will be protected: It sits just yards away from where the new school is to be built.

I don’t necessarily object to all of this proposed change. The town needs a new school, a glimpse of what sits half a million bucks to live in a tiny house have the right to send their kid to a school that has a proper air filtration system. And who am I to say it’s wrong that they’ll put their child first — even if it means more pollution, another $3,000 a year in taxes or so, and the upending of a woods they may have never entered?

What do you do when something you love is taken away from you? In a lot of cases, not much. Can I have something back? As we were moving in, I know I won’t leave because these trees and woods and paths are part of who I have become. It is my refuge from the technology, and the untruths spread by politicians and business interests that promise to save the world.

Still, all of this presents a positive challenge. As I sometimes wonder if I have become too comfortable with my backyard, I wonder what lies ahead of me. When the town has gone from an affordable option for middle-class families to some- thing approaching a ton of dollars, it brought me comfort but perhaps there are other places to see and bond with? Is this the beginning of the end?

And then, I remind myself that our existence is a mystery. Even as I lobby for more time on this planet, and for all that I desire, I know that I really understand only what brings me pleasure or pain. I can trace the path that led toward those emotions. Yes, it’s easy to get worked up about what you care about. It’s part of the reason we live and lends a sense of purpose — this balance between family, nature, and community. But I know there may be other magical places that might grant a person like me access.

Meanwhile, this path — like the woods that run to the ocean — will continue its own cleansing cycle and evolve. It will survive and be bathed by currents that will cover much of the earth again and probably glaciers as well. When the sun returns, animals will create their own paths and perhaps those new trails will bring a sense of joy and place. Perhaps, even one day, the remnants of Butt Rock will remain. To the memory of those who knew and loved it, I will begin to view the magic path as a continuation of one wondrous trail that has no beginning or end.

Steven A. Rosenberg can be reached at 7

The Storytelling Rocks sit a few yards off the main path.

“This path — like the woods that run to the ocean — will continue its own cleansing cycle and evolve,” writes the author.

Photos: Steven A. Rosenberg/Journal Staff

The Storytelling Rocks sit a few yards off the main path.

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Temple Emmanuel of Wakefield will mark its 75th anniversary this month with a weekend of activities beginning on Friday, Sept. 9 with a musical Shabbat featuring Bashert and the dedication of the Selma Pomeranz Memorial Library at 7:30 pm. The Saturday morning Shabbat service on Sept. 10 at 9:30 a.m. will be followed by a special kiddush. Both events will be hybrid. Masks are recommended for those who attend in person.

A Gala Celebration with an anniversary program highlighting special historic events and honoring well-deserving Temple members will be held under a tent on Sunday, Sept. 11 at noon. Reservations are required for the Sunday luncheon. The featured speakers will be Reverend Glenn Mortimer, Methodist Association Clergy Chair and Rabbi Marc Baker, president and chief executive officer of Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston.

The Wakefield temple has a distinguished history. Temple Emmanuel's building was built around 1918 and was owned by the Robert Yeuell family before the temple purchased the building. Its charter was signed in 1947. Rosamond Leavitt's election as the first female president of a Conservative temple in the 1950s made national news. At the temple's front door, visitors will notice a Four Chaplains monument to veterans.

Temple Emmanuel in 2022 is a member of the Jewish Reconstructionist Communities. Its spiritual leader is Rabbi Gregory Hersh.

Temple Emmanuel is located at 120 Chestnut St. Wakefield. For more information call 781-245-1886 or visit www.WakefieldTemple.org.
The humble tzedakah box
from page 1

containers into which they drop loose change — with a resounding “clunk” — meant to help develop the land of Israel, and nurture philanthropic values.

Tzedakah is Hebrew for “charitable giving,” based on the root word tzadik (justice), and the concept behind the collection boxes has now been reimagined in the Fenway sculptures, which play with the notion of “change.”

“We were thinking about how to expand people’s understanding of change, which is not just putting change into an old blue and white box, but making change for social justice,” said Laura Mandel, executive director of JArts.

The idea has been simmering for about two years, and originated with Boston-based artist Caron Tabb, creator of the red heart sculpture, who told Tabb she’d long wanted the word “change” on it, in front of the Museum of Modern Art in New York to promote the idea of social justice, “It’s really exciting the art is actually doing what it sets out to do, and who had the fabrication skills,” Mandel said. “It’s not a small feat to build a piece of art that will be outside for three months.”

Half the artists are Jewish. (They all attended a study session to learn about tzedakah.) They are Sam Mendoza Frainman; Ngoc-Tran Vu; Nayana LaFond; Carolyn Lewenberg; Jason Talbot; and Caron Tabb.

There will be a series of programs to complement the exhibition, including music, theater, and online discussions with the artists, activists, clergy and others. They begin on Sunday, Sept. 4 at 2 p.m. with a performance by the Anishinaabe Theatre Exchange, a group of Native artists who use theater to share Native stories and activate community networks. The performance, at The Green at 401 Park in the Fenway, will illuminate the issues of domestic violence addressed in artist Nayana LaFond’s Be the Change piece.

For more information about the exhibition, the artists, and the programs, visit: https://jartsboston.org/beethechange.

All six artists live in Greater Boston, and were selected based on “whose work is thematically in line with what we are looking for, and who had the fabrication skills,” Mandel said. “It's not a small feat to build a piece of art that will be outside for three months.”

Although the show will be up until Oct. 26 in Boston, the concept will live on in other cities. The idea emerged in Boston, but “Be the Change” has created partnerships with the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles and-ish (as in Jew-ish), a Cincinnati arts and cultural organization. Mandel said interest has been expressed by other cities, too, though all will use their own local artists and follow the same guidelines.

“It’s really exciting to see this come to life,” said Mandel. “We talk a lot about how to express social justice through art, and I’m so excited the art is actually doing what it sets out to do, which is to make change and have fun.”

For information about the exhibition, the artists, and the programs, visit: https://jartsboston.org/beethechange.

Matchan can be reached at matchan@jewishjournal.org.

Help Kevin keep positive, sensible change going at the Sheriff’s Department! VOTE!

SAM MENDOZA FRAIMAN’S SCULPTURE, IT’S GIVING, ADDRESSES TRANSGENDER RIGHTS.

Photo: Zev Fisher
Spotlight on ‘Be the Change’ artists

We asked the artists how they interpret the concept of tzedakah, and how their work expresses it.

Jason Talbot, Our Family Tree

For me Tzedakah is about bringing forth justice by giving to the less fortunate to balance the scales so we can all have our fair share of freedom and happiness. This family tree bound by handcuffs represents the unjust burden put on families by our racial bias criminal justice system and the need for all of us to work to relieve that burden.

Carolyn Lewenberg, Vital Organs

Vital Organs is about having a deep culture of caring for those we share land, air and water with. These relationships will give meaning to our lives and determine our ability to adapt to changing environmental conditions. Tzedakah is about investing in these relationships via whatever resources are available to you.
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Nayana LaFond, Zoongid’e (She/he is brave, in Ojibwe)

My interpretation of tzedakah was to create a safe space.

Instead of placing money into a box, I’m asking viewers to become participants and enter the space I created. It is a Wen (wisdom) with benches inside. Inside there are words and phrases of compassion and understanding for domestic abuse victims and survivors; on the outside are QR codes for human rights organizations and more. The Wen, called Zoongide’e (Ojibwe- to have a brave heart), asks participants to give through those QR codes, just as a tzedakah box asks for donations. It is a call to action(101,120),(929,911)
Local journalism returns to Marblehead
from page 1

said Robinson, whose son is a
Holocaust Legacy Fellow.

Lederman went on the Robert
Lappin Youth to Israel Adventure
and has visited the country with
his family. As a Chabad of the
North Shore member, he said
his volunteer work helping to
create the Marblehead Beacon is
in line with his Jewish values of
giving back to the community.

He sees the newspaper as a way
of providing transparency and
assuring that the government
adheres to ethical standards.

The Marblehead Beacon, a
for-profit newspaper, is run “on a
shoestring,” said Robinson. “It
is all sweat equity.” While the
Beacon is free for online read-
ers, it welcomes donations from
those “who share our commit-
ment to preserving local news
coverage,” according to its web-
com.

Marblehead News
In another part of town,
longtime former Marblehead
 Reporter editor Kris Olsen was
meeting with reporters Will
Dowd, Leigh Blander, and oth-
ers.

Over sweet and sour soup at
the Fen Yang House, the group
“mourned the loss of local
news,” said Olson. But the con-
versation brightened as they
began to wonder what they
could do.

Olson, who left the Reporter
after 14 years to work for
Lawyers Weekly in 2015, could
not abide seeing what he had
nurtured in Marblehead crum-
ble. After more meetings, the
group launched the digital
Marblehead News in June, an
independent nonprofit gov-
erned by a local board and slat-
ed to debut its print edition in
the fall.

Cofounder Blander is a jour-
nalist and a public relations and
marketing specialist. Raised
reform, she became a bat mitz-
vah at Temple Emanu-El in
Marblehead where she met her
husband, Daniel. The couple
raised their three children in
town.

Asked why she was involved
in creating a newspaper from
scratch, Blander quoted the
Washington Post’ s slogan,
‘Democracy Dies in Darkness.’

“I read four or five newspa-
pers a day. You have to have
an informed citizenry. You need
qualified, professional journal-
ists that you can trust,” said
Blander. “How do you know
who to vote for and how to
vote on the override? And how
can you be connected to your
neighbors?”

The news site is supported by
grants, sponsorships, advertis-
ers, and donations, according to
its website, www.marblehead-
news.org.

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**Friday, September 9th**

5:30PM FAMILY SHABBAT

A fun service with Rabbi Meyer & Jon Nelson

Pizza, craft and story to follow with Heather Greenberg & Jill Simmons-Wetmore

Cherry Hill Ice cream Social to follow

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Ice Cream Social Oneg Shabbat by Cherry Hill Creamery after

**Sunday, September 11th**

10AM - 11:30AM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

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Friday, September 9th

5:00-7:30 pm

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Pre-service pizza dinner with dessert to follow. Please bring your own chairs, blankets and non-alcoholic beverages.

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7:00 pm Dessert and Schmoozing

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Thursday, September 22 at 7:00pm
Arleen Judith (Isaacs) Barnes, 83, of Salem and So. Florida, formerly of Chelsea, Revere and Marblehead

Arleen Judith (Isaacs) Barnes, beloved wife, mother, sister and friend, has died at age 83 from complications that arose after a fall. Arleen was an artist, an educator, and voracious reader, and an eager traveler. But if you ask her friends and family, the description you’ll most often hear is that she was a force of nature. Indomitable, opinionated, creative, loving and fierce, she left an indelible impression on everyone she met. Arleen was born in Chelsea on August 9, 1939, the daughter of Rose and Ralph Isaacs. Her brother Ken was born in 1944 and they lived with their parents and maternal grandmother, Annie Levine. Arleen was a proud graduate of the Chelsea High School class of 1957. She made graduate of the Chelsea High School, where she met her husband Fred. She and Fred are survived by their baby was a girl.

Arleen started working as an art teacher at Revere High School in 1960. She taught art to four different classes, one of a masculine teacher named James Barnes. One of her students was a 14-year-old young man who broke classes, Jim told another teacher to ask Arleen if she thought Arleen should be asked. “Tell Jim to ask me myself,” she replied. He did, she said, “Call me,” and a romance was born.

The couple were married on August 21, 1971 at the Colonial Country Club in Lynnfield. Then, in August of 1976, their daughter Randi was born. “It’s Randi with a ‘d’” the nurse announced, which was how they found out their baby was a girl.

The young family lived in Revere, and Arleen worked full-time at Revere High School, first as a dean of girls, then as a teacher, and finally as the chair of the art department. Her artistic skills were legendary, painting to caligraphy, but her most famous work came during a teachers’ strike. Jim was still teaching, and she was in the administration, so they were on opposite sides of the strike. But when Jim showed up carrying beautifully crafted picket signs with big bubble letters and excellent composition, everyone knew who had made them.

Arleen put her artistic talents to other good uses, starting a small business — aptly named “The Social Butterfly” — doing calligraphy and other design work. She also designed her own costume jewelry, creating matching necklace, bracelets, earrings and sets. In 2000, she retired from education, finishing her career as the director of fine arts for the city of Revere public schools.

The family moved from Revere to Marblehead in 1985. After Randi’s graduation from Marblehead High School in 1994 and Dartmouth College in 1998, Jim and Arleen embraced the snowbird life, spending summers in Salem and winters in South Florida. Arleen became active in Hadassah, serving as a president of the Kiyat Yam chapter and as editor of the Region Record. Jim was a board member of the Region Record and a host of other relatives and friends. She was laid to rest in a graveside service, date to be set.

The couple were married on August 22 at Stanetsky-Hymanson Memorial Chapel, 10 Vinnin St., Salem, with interment at Maple Hill Cemetery in Peabody. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to Hadassah Woman of the Year (www.canecancer.org/involve/donate). For more information or to register in the online guestbook, visit www.stanetskyhymanson.com.

Regina Cole, 86, of Beverly, formerly of Lawrence

Regina Cole of Beverly passed away on August 18, 2022 at her residence, the age of 86. She had a long battle with cancer for the past eleven years.

Regina is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Marcia and Bruce Levine of Peabody, grandchildren Michael and his wife Amanda, and Scott and his fiancée Teela, as well as their children, Brandon Stanley and his wife, Dorothy. Regina grew up in Lawrence, where she met and married her husband Fred (deceased), and they lived with their parents and maternal grandmother, Annie Levine. Regina was a proud graduate of the Chelsea High School class of 1957. She made graduate of the Chelsea High School, where she met her husband Fred. She and Fred are survived by three grandchildren.

Jeanne (August) Gluck, 91, of Peabody, formerly of Lynn

Jeanne (August) Gluck, age 91, of Peabody, formerly of Lynn, entered eternal rest on July 30, 2022.

Jeanne had a special affinity for The Jewish Journal, as she worked on the paper for many years during her “retirement.”

She was the devoted wife of the late Stanley Gluck, beloved mother of Tsivia and Mordechai Fine and Nancy and Scott Fast. Dear sister of Norma Bradley and the late Seymour August. Adored Bobbie of Eli, Chany and Yossi, Pinchas and his wife Daniel, and the late Moishy and Chaya Baila. Shmuly and Tzirel, Goldy and Eli, Chany and Yossi, Pinchas and Rivky, Shaina, Mendy and Shifra, Boruch and Aivna and Chaya Leah and Shlomie. Cherished Alta Bobbie of 46 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren. She will be leaving behind her loving family and friends.

Nothing was more dear to Carole then her family and specifically her four grandchildren. She loved to have wine with friends, be with her large circle of friends in California and back on the East Coast. Carole was a host — always had people at her home for the holidays and most weekends. She loved to travel which included a trip to Europe with her grandsons, trips to Hawaii, Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean with her husband and family, and many jaunts back to the east coast to see her family and friends.

A graveside funeral service was held at Temple Beth El Cemetery, 350 Roxbury Road, Stamford, Conn., on August 21, where Carole was laid to rest with her husband Sid and son Neil. A kiddush followed immediately.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Carole’s name may be made to the charity of one’s choice.

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Sandra (Sandy) Rotner, 84, of Swampscott and Sarasota, Fla., formerly of Haverhill

Sandra (Sandy) Rotner, 84, died at her home in her sleep at her bedside on July 29, 2022. Four years ago, Sandy suffered a subarachnoid hemorrhage, followed by a series of strokes from which she finally succumbed. She was the widow of Dr. Howard Rotner, with whom she shared 62 years of marriage, and the three children; Pamela Rotner Sakamoto, Philip Rotner (Kim) and Beth Davis (Clay). She is also survived by her beloved sister Judith Leeder, her nieces Cindy Sandler (Gary) and Gayle Dublin, and her nephews Howard Leeder (Carla). She leaves her brothers-in-law Evan (Sheila) and Robert Rotner and niece Monica Rotner. Sandy was the adoring grandmother of seven grandchildren: Ben, Bradley, Max, Sam, Brian, Anna and Zachary. All seven came from the far corners of the country to visit her in the days prior to her death. Sandy grew up in Haverhill and attended public schools there. She was a graduate of Boston University School of Education and taught in one of the nation’s first Head Start programs in Cambridge.

Sandy’s passions were her family and education. She was proud of her three children, each of whom exceeded even her high standards and expectations. As a mother, her devotion was unparalleled. She was a strict disciplinarian but instinctively knew when to back off, and her diligent side was offset by abundant love and a robust sense of humor.

Upon arriving in Swampscott in 1968, Sandy immediately immersed herself in the education system. She was a founding member and president of the Stanly School PTA, a member of the PTA Council Scholarship Fund, and an observer for the League of Women Voters at School Committee meetings. A huge advocate for volunteerism, she created a tutoring program at Stanley School, utilizing high school National Honor Society students. She also created an after-school sports program with high school volunteers. Sandy spearheaded the Project Charlie program that promoted social and life values for elementary students. An advocate of library services, she served as a volunteer in the library and as a substitute teacher there. Volunteering was her abiding principle, and each year a student at the high school receives a Volunteerism Award given in Sandy’s name.

In 1977, Sandy ran for Swampscott School Committee and won by a wide margin. This would usher in fifteen years of School Committee membership, many of which she served as chairwoman. Her skills were enhanced by a natural ability as a public speaker. Sandy was as comfortable addressing an audience of two hundred at Town Meeting as she was an audience of thirty-five at School Committee. It was hard to resist her powers of persuasion.

Sandy’s local involvement in Swampscott town affairs included being a Recreation Commission Member, a Town Meeting Member, member of the School Committee, a Town Meeting Member, member of the Whales Beach Study Commission, Channel 2 team captain and participation on many other commissions and boards. She was an enthusiastic supporter and advocate for the Metro Program, serving as a Metro parent for eight years and the Metro community coordinator. She was a mentor and an advisor to dozens of Metro students who come to Swampscott and remember her fondly. She maintained relationships with some of these students who visited with her regularly, even during her final days.

For the past thirty years, Sandy spent her winters in the warm and charming confines of Sarasota. There she accumulated a whole host of friends from New England, the Midwest and Canada. She learned to play and enjoy golf and participated in the rich cultural activities offered by Sarasota. A voracious reader, she founded a book club, still in existence today to adjoin her membership for over fifty years in her Marblehead/Swampscott book club affectionately known as “study group”.

People who know Sandy describe her with adjectives that clearly define the essence of her being: “magnetic,” “decisive,” “in charge,” “dynamic,” “kind,” “fearless,” “loyal,” and “engaging.” Some of these qualities included, if she made a challenge, she quickly found a solution. She had the capacity to relate to anyone regardless of their background, and she could see qualities in people to which others were blinded. In short, she was a force and a presence. And she did it all with elegance and dignity.

On a personal level, it is revealing to note that Sandy never wore makeup beyond lipstick. Her single indulgence was beautifully painted fingernails that she did herself. Aside from a dab of musk mist, she preserved her authentic and genuine personality.

The Rotner family would like to express thanks to the compassionate, capable care provided by aides from Freedom Home Care and Care Dimensions for hospice care. These wonderful people gave invaluable assistance in managing Sandy’s last chapter of life.

A Celebration of Life for Sandy is being planned and will be announced by her family.

Donations in Sandy’s memory may be made to either Girls Inc of Lynn, 50 High St., Lynn, MA 01902, or Bridge Over Troubled Waters, 31 West St., Swampscott, MA 01111. Visit www.stanetteskyhmannsalem.com.

Rochelle “Shelley” Judith (Gaber) Novoselsky, of Revere

Rochelle “Shelley” Judith (Gaber) Novoselsky of Revere passed on August 25, 2022.

Beloved wife of Ira Novoselsky, whom she met in Junior High School and was married to for 52 years. Devoted mother of Seth Novoselsky and her wife Jeannemarie. Loving daughter of the late Louis and the late Anita Gaber. Dear sister of Renee Gaber and Robert Gaber and the late Rabbi Jason Gaber. Loving grandmother of Olivia and Charlie Novoselsky.

Melvin Barry Zukor

She is survived by her best friend Nancy Goldstein. Services were held at the Torf Funeral Chapel, 151 Washington Ave., Chelsea on August 28. Interment followed in Everett. Contributions in Shelley’s memory may be made to Jewish War Veterans, Prince- Strauss-Gorman Post 141, 51 Dehorn St., Revere, MA 02151.

For an online guestbook, visit dehonst.com/Gaber.

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Donations in Sandy’s memory may be made to either Girls Inc of Lynn, 50 High St., Lynn, MA 01902, or Bridge Over Troubled Waters, 31 West St., Swampscott, MA 01111. Visit www.stanetteskyhmannsalem.com.

Melvin, son of Gwen Feinstein Zucker and Bennett Zucker, passed away peacefully at age 74, on August 8, 2022. He is survived by his loving brother and sister, Alan and Donna. Mel’s memory always be a blessing.

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Elaine Lee Kreplick, 89, of Pittsburgh, PA., formerly of Cape Canaveral, Fla., Marlborough, Lynn and Revere

Elaine Lee Kreplick, 89, passed away peacefully in her sleep on August 17, 2022 in Pittsburgh, PA.

Wife of the late Harvey Kreplick, with whom she shared 56 years of marriage, Elaine leaves her three children Harlin Kreplick (Las Vegas, Nev.), Carrie Giest (Pittsburgh, PA.), Alan Kreplick (Beverly), daughters-in-law Linda Kreplick and Brenda Kreplick; son-in-law Brian O’ Neil; and four grandchildren Alison Alston, Kyle Giest, Lee Kreplick, Casey Kreplick.

She also leaves behind her sister Geraldine Kunstader and was predeceased by sister Mary Lipman.

Elaine grew up in Marlborough. She moved to Lynn as a teenager and graduated from Lynn English High School.

She attended University of Massachusetts.

Elaine met Harvey Kreplick in the early 1960s, and they were married in 1962. Along the way, they saw their children graduate high school, college, and get married.

Elaine and Harvey retired and moved to Cape Canaveral, Fl., in 1992. They always wanted to be near the water, and Elaine got her dream retirement home at the Villages at Seaport, right on the beach.

Elaine’s passions were her family, bowling card games, watching baseball, baking desserts, and being a good cook. Elaine always had family visiting her in Lynn and later Cape Canaveral. For many years, Elaine worked and competitively bowled at Northshore Lanes in Peabody. She loved playing cards – poker, canasta, rummy – and is quoted as saying “I play cards for fun; winning is just a bonus.”

She grew up rooting for Red Sox. She tells the story of sitting close to the Red Sox dugout at Fenway with her father who started heckling Ted Williams. This turned into her father and Ted swatting at each other and the woman wanting to crawl under her seat. Upon retiring to Florida, Elaine became a Tampa Bay Rays fan before most Floridians did.

Elaine was always baking desserts with some baked goods in the freezer or on the kitchen counter ready for company. Family and friends remember “a box of goodies bring sent for special occasions. She loved to dine out and found many of the “best meal I’ve ever had in my life” wherever she dined.

Elaine loved the water. She spent many a summer day at Fishererman’s Beach in Swampscott, Revere Beach, King’s Beach in Lynn, Paradise Park in Middleton, and vacations to Lake Winnipesaukee, N.H., and Cape Canaveral Beach. If not in the ocean, Elaine was always in a pool – summers in the Holiday Inn Pool in Peabody, and a pool at her retirement residence in Cape Canaveral, which was unofficially called “Elaine’s Pool.”

When not in the pool, Elaine had many “mall” friends she met several times a week, where’d they talk about local news, baseball, and the weather while snacking on one of Elaine’s desserts.

Elaine spent the last year in Pittsburgh at The Residence at Whitehall Independent Senior Living facility and close to her daughter Carrie and son-in-law Brian. She enjoyed her passions until the end, being with family, becoming a Pittsburgh Pirates fan, and playing (and still winning) cards until leaving peacefully.

Donations in Elaine’s name can be made to www.gallagherhospice.com in Pittsburgh, or to a local hospice of one’s choice.

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The West End Museum and Vilna Shul partner for special walking tour

BOSTON – The West End Museum and The Vilna Shul are teaming up for a special tour of the historic synagogue and the West End neighborhood on Thursday, Sept. 8, at 10:30 a.m. The event begins with refreshments on the patio at the Vilna Shul, 18 Phillips Street, Boston.

The Vilna Shul was a bustling synagogue and hub for Jewish immigrants in the early 1900s. Inside, participants will see Jewish folk murals discovered under layers of paint during recent renovations. The synagogue closed in 1985 and reopened a decade later with a new vision.

“Through concerts, author talks, film screenings, art exhibits, museum tours, adult learning and more, The Vilna gives voice and meaning to the histories and experiences of Boston’s immigrants and newcomers,” said Dalit Horn, executive director at The Vilna Shul.

Next, the tour will head outside and around the West End, which attracted thousands of Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe at the turn of the 20th century. Highlights will include the home of Annie Londonderry, a Jewish woman who cycled around the world, and the Old West Church, the former Boston Public Library branch that led Jewish programming.

“We’ll talk about the neighborhood culture and why Jewish people came to the West End and why they ultimately left,” said West End Museum Director Sebastian Belfanti.

For more information, visit www.vilnashul.org

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Featured Listings

16 Britannia Circle - U:146D, Salem MA
2 BR | 1.5 BA | 1,940 SQ.FT. | $550,000
Jessica Schenkel | 339.206.3302

104 Bridge Street - U:3, Salem MA
3 BR | 2 BA | 1,666 SQ.FT. | $559,000
Shari McGuirk | 781.589.7720

27 Washington Street, Marblehead MA
2 BR | 1 BA | 768 SQ.FT. | $35,000
Dan Devan & Jane Fields | 781.962.6987

1 Campbell Way, Marblehead MA
3 BR | 3.5 BA | 2,068 SQ.FT. | $1,095,000
Brian Rice & William Rochford | 617.803.100
Friday, September 2

Candle-Lighting Times

An Evening with Rabbi Nehemia Polen

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IN all observance may be.

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with deeper insight, appreciation, and love — whatever one's level

He will explore the transformative

effect of Shabbat and how to experience it in the modern world with
deeper insight, appreciation, and love — whatever one’s level of

Rabbi Nehemia Polen, a master teacher and spiritualist, will discuss

his latest book,

NEHEMIA POLEN

SUN., SEPTEMBER 11

SHABBAT ON THE BEACH

5 p.m. Presented by Congregation Shirat Hayam. Community is invited to welcome Shabbat with musical holy

time minyan at Preston Beach. Come sing, dance, schmooze and

pray together with Rabbi Michael and Cantor Sarah. Pizza and dessert will be provided. Bring your own chairs or

blankets and non-alcoholic beverages. In case of inclement weather, Minyan

will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the

synagogue. For further information,

visit www.jccns.org for details.

SUN., SEPTEMBER 11

AN EVENING WITH RABBI NEHEMIA POLEN

7 p.m. Rabbi Nehemia Polen, a master teacher and spiritualist, will discuss his latest book, Stop Look Listen. He will explore the transformative
effect of Shabbat and how to experience it in the modern world with
deep insight, appreciation, and love — whatever one’s level of

observance may be.

Free and open to all. Please RSVP to sewing@jccns.com.

SAT., SEPTEMBER 3

FLYING HORSE OUTDOOR SCULPTURE EXHIBIT

Opening of the 13th annual Flying Horse Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit features more than 40 pieces by artists working in a wide

range of media and genres and from all over New England. Admission is free and open to the public seven days a week
during daylight hours. Everyone is invited to a reception with the artists on Sunday, September 18 at 1:30 p.m. Honorary Chair Joshua Rudler will speak. Pingree School 537 Highland St., Southborough. For more information, visit www.pingree.org/sculpture-show

THU., SEPTEMBER 8

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

Presented by Lapin Foundation. Registration is open for Introduction to Judaism, a free 21-week course designed for individuals of faiths other than Judaism who want to explore Judaism or who are considering conversion to Judaism. For more information and the class schedule, visit www.LappinFoundation.org or contact Sharon Winer at 791-561-4440.

BOOK DISCUSSION

7 p.m. Presented by the JCCNS. Take a deeper dive with Marc Winer into the book “Stop Look Listen” by Rabbi Nehemia Polen, at our pre-event in person book discussion. Books available for sale at the JCCNS front desk for $25. RSVP to sewing@jccns.com. Visit www.jccns.org for details.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

SHABBAT ON THE BEACH

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THU., SEPTEMBER 15

CONVERSATION WITH MICHAEL W. TWITTY

12:30 p.m. Presented by Temple Emanuel. Council. Adeena Sussman will have a conversation with bestselling author Michael Twitty about identity, food, culture and intersectionality. “Kosher soul: The Faith and Food Journey of an African American Jew” is a thought-provoking memoir that looks at the creation of African Jewish foods as a result of migration and the diaspora. For information and tickets, go to: jccns.org/events/jccns-presented-adena-
sussman-in-conversation-with-michael-
w-twitty

FRI., SEPTEMBER 16

PJ LIBRARY BIRTHDAY PARTY

FOR THE WORLD

5:30 p.m. Presented by Temple Emanuel of Merrimack Valley. Join PJ Library, Rabbi Chanan and Cantor Rachel of Temple Emanuel Andover for a celebration of Rosh Hashanah, combining music, movement and storytelling. The program is geared toward families with children ages 6 and younger. For more information contact Maureen Chapman at mchapman@tempelmanuel.org or Rachel Lifefarb at rachel@lappinfoundation.org. Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover.

SAT., SEPTEMBER 17

“THE WAKE UP CALL”

1:40 p.m. Documentary about the folly and
collateral damage of war will screen at the Newburport Documentary Film Festival. Natick filmmakers Eric Noudel and Alison Gilkey will attend and answer questions. For information and order tickets go to: www.nbptdocufest.org.

The Envision Center for the Arts, 1 Market Square, Newburyport.

Meeting Barbara Abrams, 6 p.m. Presented by Temple Ahavat Achique. Barbara Abrams is director of the Global and Cultural Studies Major Program at Suffolk University. She will present her research on Gilda Schwab, an 18th century French woman who converted to Catholicism. Temple Ahavat Achique, 96 Middle St., Gloucester. RSVP at www.templeahavatachique.org

Doggie Dip at the Outdoor Pool, 1 – 4 p.m. All local dogs are invited for a sun-filled afternoon at the JCCNS outdoor pool. Hamilton and during our summer season. $5 per dog and open to all dogs. All proceeds will be donated to Northeast Animal Shelter. More info at www.jccns.org

WED., SEPTEMBER 14

SENIOR LUNCH, 11 a.m. Presented by the JCCNS. All seniors are welcome to enjoy a live performance by the

Inspire Band and share a delicious complimentary lunch at the JCCNS. RSVP to Sara Ewing at sewing@jccns.com

THE ART OF THE HIGH HOLIDAYS, 3 p.m. Presented by Jewish Art Education. The community is invited for The Art of the High Holidays, which brings Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to life through 1,500 years of Jewish art. Botnick offers an overview of visual art objects and in-depth narration about their symbolism related to the holidays. Free, but you must register in advance to receive the Zoom link: https://jccns.org/ event/the-art-of-the-high-holidays/

embracing Zionism: Advocating for israel in an Age of Antisemitism, 7:30 p.m. Presented by Hadassah Northeast. A virtual discussion of Hadassah’s advocacy efforts in support of a strong U.S. and Israel relationship. Karen Pollack, Hadassah’s director of government affairs, will be interviewed by Sue Polansky, chair on the Zionism education committee. The program will begin with welcoming remarks by Ambassador Menor Reuben, consul general of Israel to New England. Free, to register, go to: https://secure2.convio.net/wzoa/site/Ticketing?view=Ticket&id=107870

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Joshua Ruder builds benches. "Not just any benches, but benches created from stones found and chosen from the surrounding landscape where it will rest. By selecting specific stones from the same place where a bench will remain helps to create an even deeper connection between it and its setting," said Ruder.

Ruder grew up in Newton and attended Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley. "The Torah passage that I chose was about Jacob's dream and in my Dvar Torah, I spoke about the power of doubt and asking questions in the forming of knowledge, and how special it is that in Judaism we are encouraged to question and wrestle with everything, even the idea of God," he said.

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The first annual Jewish Journal major donor event was held in August. The Jewish Journal, founded 45 years ago, is poised for great things in the future ... and we invite your participation. We are grateful for all donors, and are proud to educate, inform and connect Greater Boston's Jewish and interfaith communities.